



February 2024

Dear Friend,

Seeking contributions

Against the background of disturbing reports of untold suffering in the Ukraine and the Middle East, many Friends are wondering how to respond to these conflicts and how we might campaign for peace in these uncertain times.

How can we speak our Truth in this moment? What can we say about our condition?

What is our Witness?

Northern Friends Peace Board has supported Friends in the North and beyond by providing a different perspective on developments through its *Peace Round-Ups* and its website. For over a year, our Ukraine working group has encouraged Friends to share responses to the war. In February 2023, we organised an online forum with prepared ministry that invited Friends to share their feelings about the war. Later that year, NFPB adopted a statement on the war at its meeting in June (https://nfpb.org.uk/ukraine_nfpb_july2023/).

Building on this work, we plan to publish a collection of contributions by ten to twelve Northern Friends reflecting on the ongoing Russo-Ukrainian war; the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; the impact of these wars on global cooperation and climate crisis, and the

“Peace work for and by Quakers in the north of Britain”

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meaning of our peace testimony in our time. We hope to publish this short collection in print and online in June/July 2024.

We are inviting contributions from interested Friends which reflect on current events/developments, our personal responses and our visions for the future from a Quaker perspective. *Contributions should be between 300 and 1500 words. If you want contribute, please contact Philip Austin (NFPB coordinator nfpb@gn.apc.org) or the editor Till Geiger (till.geiger@posteo.net) with a rough outline of your contribution.*

In Peace,

NFPB Ukraine working group

Possible prompt questions:

- What has your response been to the wars in Ukraine and Gaza?
- What particular issues or concerns have these raised for you and with other Quakers with whom you're in contact?
- What do you see as the challenges and opportunities in working for peace in relation to these wars?